Aroclor and Other PCB Mixtures

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PCB Mixtures and Trade Names

With few exceptions, PCBs were manufactured as a mixture of various PCB congeners, through progressive chlorination of batches of biphenyl until a certain target percentage of chlorine by weight was achieved. Commercial mixtures with higher percentages of chlorine contained higher proportions of the more heavily chlorinated congeners, but all congeners could be expected to be present at some level in all mixtures. While PCBs were manufactured and sold under many names, the most common was the Aroclor series. For information on the percent weight of PCB congeners present in some common Aroclors, see Plots of Aroclor Composition (PDF) (7 pp, 82K).

Aroclor

Aroclor is a PCB mixture produced from approximately 1930 to 1979. It is one of the most commonly known trade names for PCB mixtures. There are many types of Aroclors and each has a distinguishing suffix number that indicates the degree of chlorination. The numbering standard for the different Aroclors is as follows: The first two digits generally refer to the number of carbon atoms in the phenyl rings (for PCBs this is 12), the second two numbers indicate the percentage of chlorine by mass in the mixture. For example, the name Aroclor 1254 means that the mixture contains approximately 54% chlorine by weight. See the Table of Aroclors (PDF) (1 pg, 19K) for a list of common Aroclors.

PCB Trade Names

PCBs were manufactured and sold under many different names. The names in the following table have been used to refer to PCBs or to products containing PCBs. Please note:

- Some of these names may be used for substances or mixtures not containing PCBs.
- Many of these names were used with distinguishing suffixes, indicating degree of chlorination, type of formulation, or other properties (e.g., Aroclor 1254; Clophen A60).
- Some of these names may be misspellings of the correct names, but are included here for completeness.

PCB Trade Names

Aceclor
Adkarel
ALC
Apirolio
Apirorlio
Arochlor
Arochlors
Aroclor
Aroclors
Arubren
Asbestol
ASK
Askael
Askarel
Auxol
Bakola
Biphenyl, chlorinated
Chlophen
Chloretol
Chlorextol
Chlorinated biphenyl
Chlorinated diphenyl
Chlorinol
Chlorobiphenyl
Chlorodiphenyl
Chlorphen
Chorextol
Chorinol
Clophen
Clophenharz
Cloresil
Clorinal
Clorphen
Decachlorodiphenyl
Delor
Delorene
Diaclor
Dicolor
Diconal
Diphenyl, chlorinated
DK
Duconal
Dykanol
Educarel
EEC-18
Elaol
Electrophenyl
Elemex
Elinol
Eucarel
Fenchlor
Fenclor
Fenocloro
Gilotherm
Hydol
Hyrol
Hyvol
Inclor
Inerteen
Inertenn
Kanechlor
Kaneclor
Kennechlor
Kenneclor
Leromoll
Magvar
MCS 1489
Montar
Nepolin
No-Flamol
NoFlamol
Non-Flamol
Olex-sf-d
Orophene
PCB
PCB's
PCBs
Pheaoclor
Phenochlor
Phenoclor
Plastivar
Polychlorinated biphenyl
Polychlorinated biphenyls
Polychlorinated diphenyl
Polychlorinated diphenyls
Polychlorobiphenyl
Polychlorodiphenyl
Prodelec
Pydraul
Pyraclor
Pyralene
Pyranol
Pyroclor
Pyronol
Saf-T-Kuhl
Saf-T-Kohl
Santosol
Santotherm
Santothern
Santovac
Solvol
Sorol
Soval
Sovol
Sovtol
Terphenychlore
Therminal
Therminol
Turbinol